No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/03/24 : LOC-HAK-548-6-16-0

TOP SECRET

EJA112KGM OO WIE 22 DE WIE #0801 0462235

O 152234Z FEB 73 PM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK 193 TO RODMANALORD FOR DR. KISSINGER ZEM

TOPSECRET SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD WH30551

TOWAK 193

FEBRUARY 15, 1973

CONTAINS CODEWORD

STRONG U.S. BACKING.

NSA review completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

PROM:

25X1

THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT:

EVENING NOTES

25X1

LAGS RICHTEST ELEMENTS CONCERNED ABOUT NEW PROPOSAL: IS CONSIDERABLE CONSTERNATION AMONG RIGHTIST ELEMENTS IN VIENTIANE FOLLOWING SOUVANNA'S REVELATION AT HIS CABINET. MEETING VESTERDAY THAT HE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT A PATHET LAG PROPOSAL THAT THE PORTFOLIOS IN A NEW GOVERNMENT BE EQUALLY DIVIDED BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES IF THE COMMUNISTS ACCEPT HIM AS ITS HEAD. HIGH AT A RIGHTIST MEETING! ONE CABINET MEMBERS WHO IS A RELA-TIVE OF THE LAG ARMY DEPUTY COMMANDER, SAID THAT THE MILITARY LEADERS DO NOT APPROVE SUCH A CONCESSION. AS YET. THE RIGHT-ISTS HAVE NOT SAID WHAT THEY MIGHT DO IF THE PRIME MINISTER IGNORES THEIR OBJECTIONS. BEFORE THE RIGHTISTS MET. SOUVANNA HAS ALMEACY AGREED TO A RIGHTIST PROPOSAL TO POSTPONE FINAL DECISION ON THE MATTER UNTIL HE CONSULTS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS. THE RIGHTISTS ALMOST CERTAINLY REALIZE THAT THEY COULD NOT HORE TO SUCCESSFULLY UPSET SOUVANNA'S PLANS IT HE OBTAINS

MORI/CDF C03360287

SOUTH VIETNAM POLITICAL SITUATION: PRESIDENT THIEL

HOPES TO GET THE VIET CONG TO AGREE TO A PRESIDENTIAL ELEC-TION AT THE EARLIEST DATE. PREFERABLY WITHIN THREE TO SIX MONTHS: THIEU-ADDED THAT HE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE TO AGREE TO VIET GONG DEMANDS FOR THE ELECTION OF A CONSTITUENT AS-SEMBLY. HE ASSERTED. HOWEVER: THAT BEFORE HE WOULD ALLOW ANY-KIND OF ELECTION, NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS WOULD HAVE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE SOUTH.

CIA COMMENTS THAT THIS IS ANOTHER INDICATION THAT THIEU THINKS HE MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO GAIN BY APPEARING FORTHOOMING ON THE

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TOP SEGNET

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-9-

TOTA OF FLECTIONS. HE PROBABLY EXPECTS THE COMMUNISTS WILL NOT ACCEPT HIS PROPOSALS AND IN ANY CASE, HAS LEFT HIMSELF AN MOUTH IN HIS DEMAND THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE THOOPS MUST FIRST WITHDRAW.

MOSCOW STAKES OUT ITS NORTH VIETNAM CLAIM: WRITING IN THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR . PAUL VOHL ENTITLES HIS AFTICLE. "KISSINGERIS HANDI EXPLORING TRKS KREMLIN." WOHL INDICATES THAT THE KREMLIN IS DISTURBED BY YOUR JOURNEY TO HANOI AND BY THE POLITICAL EFFECT OF THE SOVIET UNION'S HAVING FARLIER. IN EFFECT. VIELDED TO AMERICAN PRESSURE IN VIETNAM. WOLL BASES HIS THOUGHTS ON A TIGHTLY REASONED ARTICLE IN IZVESTIA OF FEBRUARY 6. WHERE THE KREMLIN INDICATED IT DID NOT WANT THE U.S. TO HELP IN RECONSTRUCTION OF NORTH VIETNAM AND FOR THE U.S. TO FOLLOW A "HANDS OFF SOUTHFAST ASIA" POLICY. MOSCOW HAS APPARENTLY SET ITSELF UP AS A PREORDAINED LEADER AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND WARNS HANGI AGAINST BIG MONOPOLIST AND IN-PERIALIST POWERS. IT SEEMS THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES WILL TACKLE "THE GRANDOISE TASK OF TRANSFORMING THE DRY INTO A POWERFUL. FLOURISHING. SOCIALIST COUNTRY." CULMINATION OF THE IZVESTIADARTICLE ENTITLED, "FAVORABLE POSSI-BILITIES" HAILS PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AS THE BASIC SOVIET POLICY. AND ILLUSTRATES THE CONTINUING RIVALRY BETWEEN THE KREMLIN. THE CURRENT KREMLIN MOOD MAINTAINS WASHINGTON. AND PEKING. THE SOVIET UNION'S DETERMINATION TO RETAIN THE LEADERSHIP OF NATIONAL-LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

25X3

VASHINGTON-HANDI COMMUNIQUE -- CONGRESSIONAL REACTION: SENATOR MANSFIELD SAID HE FEELS THE U.S. HAS A MORAL OBLIGATION TO HELP REBUILD INDOCHINA; HOWEVER: SENATOR BYRD OF WEST VIRGINIA SAID HE IS PERSONALLY OPPOSED TO ANY U.S. AID. BYRD ADDED THAT

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TUP SEUKE

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HE FELT "THERE WILL BE CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT FOR THE VIEWPOINT" IN CONGRESS, BUT "I CAN'T VOTE FOR FOREIGN AID FOR NORTH VIET-NAM WHEN THE ADMINISTRATION IS IMPOUNDING MONEYS FOR PROGRAMS THAT ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT FOR MY OWN PEOPLE IN WEST VIRGINIA."

SENATOR SCOTT DISAGREED WITH PYRD'S VIEW. SAYING "THERE IS A HIGHLY RATIONAL REASON" FOR SUCH AID AND FELT THE AID WOULD BE APPROVED "AFTER A GREAT DEAL OF DEBATE AND AFTER EVERYONE HAD MADE HIS PITCH." SENATOR PERCY NOTED THAT HE DOES NOT BELIEVE CONGRESS WOULD APPROVE AID FOR HANDI UNLESS IT IS CONTRIBUTED JOINTLY BY U.S. ALLIES. SENATOR HUMPHREY SAID HE COULD NOT VOTE TO RROVIDE FUNDS TO REBUILD HAIPHONG WHEN MUCH OF WASHINGTON'S GHETTO HAS NOT BEEN REBUILT SINCE IT WAS RAVAGED BY RIOTS IN 1968.

SECRETARY ROGERS' NEWS CONFERENCE: IN A WASHINGTON NEWS CON-FERENCE TODAY, SECRETARY ROGERS SAID THAT HE THOUGHT CONGRESS WOULD WIND UP APPROVING FUNDS FOR A RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM FOR ALL OF INDOCHINA. HE SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTY IN GETTING CONGRESS TO OKAY POSTWAR GVECOMEDODOVEDEED WESTNASSIBURICED FROM ED HERTSLESS WEED RESWOULDERS WAS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

HE NOTED THAT THE PEACE-GUARANTY CONFERENCE, OPENING IN PARIS ON FEBRUARY 26, WILL BE GOING INTO THE AID GUESTION INSOMUCH AS THE REACE AGREEMENT DEALS IN PART WITH ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION. HE ALSO NOTED THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION AGREED TO BY YOU IN HANDI AND CONCERNING YOUR VISIT TO CHINA SAID, "WE HAVE EXPECTATIONS OF IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE PROPERTY OF THE VIETNAM CEASE-FIRE CURRENTLY BEING REPORTED DO NOT MEAN THE PEACE ACCORD HAS BROKEN DOWN. "WE SEE NO INDICATION THAT ANY PARTY IS ATTEMPTING TO SCUTTLE THE PEACE AGREEMENT OF IS ATTEMPTING TO UNDERMINE IT SO IT WON'T TAKE EFFECT.

ON OTHER SUBJECTS HE SAID:

-- CONTRARY TO INDICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICIALS EARLIER THIS WEEK. THERE IS NO FORMAL LINK BETWEEN THE U.S. EALANCE-OF-TRADE DEFICITS AND THE GUESTION OF KEEPING U.S. FORGE LEVELS IN WESTERN EUROPE.

WHILE CONGRESSIONAL AND U.S. DOMESTIC ATTITUDES ARE AFFECTED BY THE IMBALANCE IN TRADE. THE MATTER OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN WESTERN EUROPE DEALS WITH SECURITY. "THERE IS NO LINKAGE

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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE CONTAINS COPENORD

-4-

BRTUSEN THE TWO. CERTAINLY IN ANY FORMAL SENSE. AND CERTAINLY IN ANY DISCUSSIONS WE ARE GOING TO HAVE WITH OUR ALLIES."

- -- THE U.S. HAS NO PLANS AT THIS TIME TO REDUCE ITS FORCES ON TAIWAN BECAUSE IT IS TOO EARLY VET TO FULFILL THAT PORTION OF THE AGREEMENT MADE WITH COMMUNIST CHINA.
- THE U.S. HAS NO PRESENT PLANS TO SEEK TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH CUBA BECAUSE IT SEES NO CHANGE IN CASTRO'S GENERALLY HOSTILE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE U.S. THE ANTIHIJACKING AGREEMENT IS VERY VELCOME BUT IT IS POSSIBLE ONLY BECAUSE CUBA. ITSELF. VAS GETTING INCREASINGLY TIRED OF TRYING TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM.

THE EVENING STAR AND WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS: HENRY BRADSHER REPORTS YOUR ARRIVAL IN PERING FOR FOUR DAYS OF TALKS WITH CHINESE LEADERS. AS A RESULT OF THE VIETNAM CEASE-FIRE OBSERVERS IN HONG KONG SEE POSSIBLE CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN PEKING AND WASHINGTON. WASHINGTON. REPORTEDLY IS EAGER TO OBTAIN CHINESE PERMISSION FOR A QUASI-DIPLOMATIC U.S. PHESENCE IN PEKING UNDER THE GUISE OF A TRADE MISSION. THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY REPORTED YOU WERE MET BY FOREIGN MINISTER CHIPPING-FEI AND HIS FIRST DEPUTY. YOUR WERE EXPECTED TO SEE PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI LATER. (A 1)

DAN THOMASSON REPORTS AN ELECTRONIC "BUG" FOUND IN THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MAIN HEARING ROOM IN AN APPARENT EFFORT TO EAVESDROP ON UPCOMING SECRET BRIEFINGS BY STATE AND DEFENSE OFFICIALS. THE BUG WAS DISCOVERED BY A CLEANING CREW AND REPORTED TO STATE AND THE FOI. (A 1)

VRITING FROM VIENTIANE, TAMMY ARBUCKLE SEES MAJOR OBSTACLES TO A CEASE-FIRE PACT IN LAGS. SOME OBSTACLES INVOLVE A LAGS GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT TO FORM A "FOLITICAL COMMITTEE" AFTER A POST-WAR GOVERNMENT IS FORMED AS OPPOSED TO A PROPORED FATHET LAG "POLITICAL COUNCIL" BEFORE THE FORMATION OF SUCH A GOVERNMENT. THERE IS ALSO DISAGREEMENT OVER THE NAMES OF THE SIGNATORIES OF AN LAG AGREEMENT! HOWEVER. THE MOST IMPOSTANT DIFFERENCE T THAT PREMIER PHOUMA SAYS HE IS THE LEADER OF THE LAG NEUTRALIST, BUT THE PATHET LAG REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE HIM AS SUCH. (A 6)

THE NINE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET SAID TODAY THAT PRESIDENT NIXON'S DECISION TO DEVALUE THE DOLLAR WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO RESOLVING WORLD BALANCE OF FAYMENTS PROBLEMS. BUT

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TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD

THEY SAID HIS ACTION WOULD NOT STOP THEM PROM GOING AHEAD WITH WORK ON A WORLDWIDE MONETARY OVERHAUL. (A 7)

THE U.S. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS IMPROVED IN THE FOURTH GUARTER OF 1972 AND FOR THE YEAR AS A WHOLE, BUT THE CEFTCIT STILL WAS HUCE BY HISTORIC STANDARDS -- WHICH HELPS EXPLAIN WAY THE PRESIMENT WAS FORCED TO DEVALUE THE DOLLAR. (A 7)

GEORGE SHERMAN NOTES THAT DESPITE THE NEW ECONOMIC COMMISSION SET UP IN HANOI, THE ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES A CAUTIOUS PUBLIC LINE IN WHAT POST-WAR AID -- IF ANY -- WILL GO TO HANOL BOIR THE WHITE HOUSE AND STATE IMMEDIATELY PLAYED DOWN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION. ZIELGER SAID THE COMMISSION MIGHT BE A STEF TOWARD NORMAL TIES WITH THE ERSTWHILE ENEMY. BUT DENIED VIGOROUSLY THAT IT WOULD EITHER ESTABLISH AN AID FIGURE OR ADVINISTER ITS APPLICATION. HE SAID THE COMMISSION IS TO HE A "FORUM" FOR DISCUSSING THE NEEDS OF RECONSTRUCTION OF NORTH VIETNAM. STATE OFFICIALS SAID MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WILL UNDOUBTLY BE "EXPERTS" FROM THE AID FROGRAM, AND THAT THE COMMISSION IS LITTLE DIF-FERENT FROM THE "SURVEY BODY" THE U.S. GOVERNMENT USUALLY CHARGES WITH A FRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF ANY POTENTIAL AID RECIPIENT. (A 20)

PROM LONDON, DIPLOMATIC REPORTS -- COINCIDING WITH YOUR PEKING VISIT -- SAID THE SING-SOVIET CONFLICT IS SPEEDING CHINA'S MOVEMENT TOWARD THE WEST BEYOND EXPECTATIONS. IN THIS REGARD. THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE ANNOUNCED THAT CHINA IS SEEKING TO ACQUIRE BRITISH FIGHTER PLANES IN A MOVE SIGNIFYING PEKING'S INTENTION OF GET AWAY FROM DEPENDENCE ON SOVIET WEAPONS. (A 20)

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